Dp
Happy Birthday
#SteeZombie!

Dp
Happy Birthday
Makai Thief!

Waraibanashi no You da

Janome

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The Day We Long for the Shining Stars
Story 03

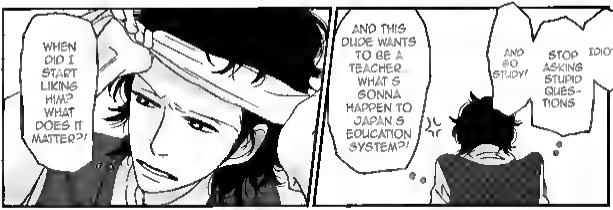
MESSAGE SENT
BEEP
...
He he he he!
Oh my
GRIN
GRIN
LOOK AT IZUMI-KUN. I FEEL DISAPPOINTED SOMEHOW.
YEAH...
HE LOOKS PATHETIC.
Whisper
Whisper
But don't you think he's happy?
In many ways
He's smiling again

SHOCK
WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?
SO MANY... HE TRYIN TO PISS ME OFF?
NEW MESSAGES 105

Grah!
ANOTHER ONE!
Dunno... But the client's wife is no longer a woman for us, right?
Huh? A creature worse than a woman?! What can that be?
Ha! Ha! Ha!
YOUR CELL KEPT BUZZIN ALL THE TIME TOICH!
SUP?
THAT'S ADULT LIFE FOR YOU! IT'S A WOMAN!
NAH
IT'S SOMETHING MORE ANNOYING THAN THAT
WHAT?

MORNING!
IS THE WEATHER GOOD OVER THERE TODAY?
HAVE A GOOD DAY AT WORK!
I'M OFF TO SCHOOL.
SHINOYA, I LOVE YOU.
SHIT
HR...
SH.

LEAVE HIM ALONE
The hell's wrong with you?!
THERE HE GOES AGAIN
AND HE FREAKS OUT
NEW DAY SAME SHIT
Grrr...
CAN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND
WHY DO YOU LIKE SOMEONE LIKE M
NOTHING GOOD ABOUT ME
EVEN SO WHEN DID YOU KNOW?
REALLY. WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU LIKE A
I LOVE EVERYTHING
ABOUT YOU BUT

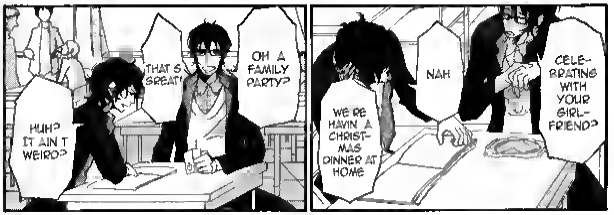

WHEN DID I START LIKING HIM? WHAT DOES IT MATTER?!
AND THIS DUDE WANTS TO BE A TEACHER WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN TO JAPAN'S EDUCATION SYSTEM?!
AND GO STUDY!
STOP ASKING STUPID QUES-TIONS
IDIOT!

TOICHI, YOUR FATHER'S CALLING!
OKAY!
HELL IF I KNOW
WHAT I LIKE ABOUT HIM
SO ME WANTS ME TO TELL HIM

DARN! BUT...
WHY NOT?
IT'S CHRIST-MAS!
MAYBE I STARTED TO NOTICE HIM AROUND THAT TIME COULD BE THEN

WE HAVE A FAMILY PARTY AT HOME I CAN'T THIS TIME
MY DAD REMARRIED AND THE LADY IS ALL HYPED UP FOR IT!
...
OUR FAMILY'S ALL GUYS SO IT'S THE FIRST TIME
EVERY-ONE'S LOOKIN FORWARD TO IT
HEY YOU COULD CO-
THAT'S WEIRD!
A CHRISTMAS PARTY WITH PARENTS AT OUR AGE?
THE MARRIAGE WAS THEIR OWN DECISION THEY DID IT FOR THEM-SELVES
SO PARENTS SHOULD HAVE THEIR OWN THING!
SHE'S YOUR STEPMOTHER RIGHT? AREN'T YOU FUSSING TOO MUCH ABOUT HER?
IS IT WEIRD?
I SEE. I DION'T THINK ABOUT THAT

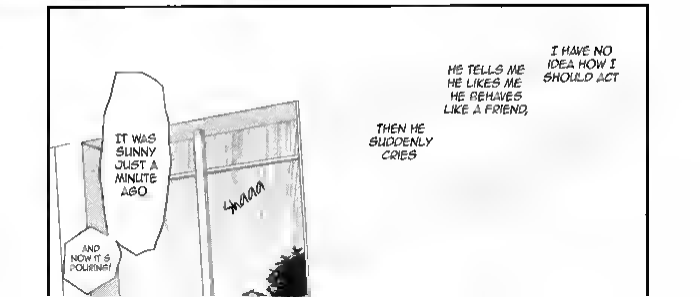
SOMEHOW
EVEN IF THERE'S NO BLOOD RELATION PEOPLE CAN CONNECT
BUT STILL SOME WAY OR ANOTHER EVEN STRANGERS CAN BECOME FAMILY
SHINOYA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR CHRISTMAS?


OH A FAMILY PARTY?
THAT'S GREAT!
HUH? IT AIN'T WEIRD?
CELEBRATING WITH YOUR GIRLFRIEND?
NAH
WE'RE HAVIN' A CHRISTMAS DINNER AT HOME

HMM.
WHY DON'T YOU COME TO OUR PLACE THEN?
IF YOU WANT
...
EVEN THOUGH I WISHED FOR IT
THAT KIND OF FAMILY THING
...
WHY?
WE NEVER HAD CHRISTMAS PARTIES EVEN WHEN I WAS A KID

CAN I?
REALLY?
CAN I REALLY COME?
HUH?
CLATTER

SURE
I JUST DON'T GET HIM SOMETIMES
WHAT DOES HE WANT FROM ME?
I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING WEIRD
WAS I SURPRISED JUST NOW?
WHY WAS HE...


I HAVE NO IDEA HOW I SHOULD ACT
HE TELLS ME HE LIKES ME HE BEHAVES LIKE A FRIEND,
THEN HE SUDDENLY CRIES
IT WAS SUNNY JUST A MINUTE AGO
AND NOW IT'S POURING!
SPLASH

chatter
...
mmm
WHAT IF WE WAIT?
I HAVE NO UM SPELLIN'
chatter
YEAH, FOR REAL!
SHOCK
BUZZ BUZZ
WOW! I GOT A REPLY TODAY FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME!
HE COMPLETELY IGNORED ME BEFORE!
WHAT IS IT? WHAT COULD IT BE? WHY?!
SUPER POLITE WORDING SUCKS
OH
shaaa
...
OH, WOW!
IT'S RAINING EARLY AND STRONG!

DOING HIS BEST
IN THIS HEAVY RAIN
MUST BE WORKING
SHINOYA ALSO
THAT'S RIGHT
Shaaa
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE FAR APART
I SENT SO MANY TEXTS
Shaaa
I CAN'T HELP IT
DAMN I'M HOPELESS
DID I BOTHER HIM? HE MIGHT BE ANGRY
SHI-NOYA!
SORRY I'M LATE!
ARE YOU ANGRY?

WE'VE ALREADY STARTED!
SLOW-POKE!
IT'S LESS THAN 15 MINUTES FROM YOUR PLACE TO MINE!
WHAT? YOU GOT CAUGHT BY A GANG? HELD UP FOR INTERROGATION?
ABDUCTED BY ALIENS? ASSHOLE!
Hello!
Ah! Good evening!
YOU CAN SMILE LATER!
HEY LISTEN TO ME!
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE HAVING FUN SHINOYA!
Listen here! In this house, meal time is war!
YES!
You snooze, you lose! And then you die! Got it?
YES!
mmm mmm
COME ON IN
OKAY WHATEVER
SURPRISE
I'LL PASS TODAY
YOU KNOW, I THINK...

JUST THIS ONE THING
PLEASE PASS THIS TO YOUR MOTHER
ER WELL
I'M SORRY EVEN THOUGH YOU INVITED ME
HUH? OH I SEE
GOT OTHER PLANS?
WHAT'S THIS?
A FLOWER?

THANKS! MOM'S GONNA BE HAPPY!
...
bathwimp

GRAB
SHI-NOYA?
HEY
WHY DON'T YOU COME IN FOR A BIT? JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE?
SORRY I HAVE TO GO
I JUST DON'T GET HIM SOME-TIMES
BUT, STILL
DUMB-ASS
HIS HAND...
...IS ICE COLD.
IT'S ALL RIGHT, JUST COME IN!
OKAY?
I DO UNDERSTAND SOMEHOW.
IT'S ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID BEFORE
TO YOU, CHRISTMAS IS THIS KIND OF D.I.Y.
I'M GUESSING THAT,
MOST LIKELY,

A DAY TO SPEND WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE DEAR TO YOU.
A DAY THAT IS LIKE A DREAM. A DAY YOU LONG FOR.
THINKING THAT YOU'RE NOT NEEDED HERE.
THINKING THAT I DON'T NEED YOU.
HOW LONG DID YOU STAND THERE,
STARING AT THE LIGHTS FROM THE DARK NIGHT?
LONG ENOUGH TO FREEZE?
BUT YOU'RE ALREADY HERE!
YOU CAN'T JUST GO BACK!

tremble
IT'S ALL RIGHT
IT WOULD BE WEIRD WITH ME THERE
I'M NOT FAMILY
SO IT'S ALL RIGHT
SHI-NOYA
IT'S REALLY ALL RIGHT
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU WANT FROM ME?
I SEE...
YOU GAVE UP

YOU GAVE UP ON BEING TOGETHER WITH ME
EVEN THOUGH YOU WISH FOR IT
YOU THINK IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
IT'S SO SAD
I'M THINKING ABOUT YOU-
...ALL THE TIME
I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT I SHOULD DO,
BUT I CAN ONLY DO IT MY OWN WAY
HEY, IT'S ME.
WHATCHA DOIN'? YOU BUSY?
Hellooo!
HEY SAY SOME-THING!

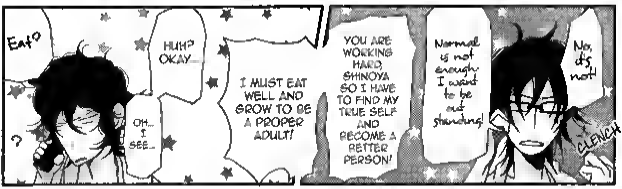
PISSED
Huh? What's up with that voice?
Is this your teenage rebellion?
OH...
THE NUMBER YOU HAVE DIALED IS CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE.
BEEP!
If you don't wanna talk, don't pick up the phone!
What the hell is this, a challenge? A protest? You tryin' to revolt? Okay, I get it. I'm hangin' up
NO, NO, I'M SO SORRY! I NEEDED TO CALM DOWN A BIT!
Waaa
THIS ISN'T A CHALLENGE OR ANYTHING
SNAP
DON'T TRY TO LIE TO ME
YOU SUCK AT IT
SORRY I DIDN'T SEND YOU MORE THAN THAT TODAY
creak
DURING THE DAY--
NO, NO IT'S OKAY!
IT'S ME WHO SHOULD APOLOGIZE!
I KEPT BOTHERING YOU WHILE YOU WERE WORKING TODAY SORRY ABOUT THAT

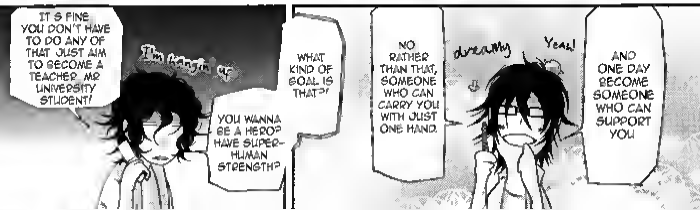
IT WAS JUST SOME MESSAGES, NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE.
HUH? WHY?
I DON'T THINK IT'S SUCH A SMALL THING.
I'M SERIOUSLY TRYING TO CORRECT MY MISTAKES.
Ha ha!
...
I HAVE TO SHAPE UP! WE'RE SEPARATED FOR THE TIME BEING.
SO I HAVE TO DO THINGS PROPERLY!
BECAUSE

BECAUSE...
...WE'RE TOGETHER NOW!

YEAH
THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS TO BE TOGETHER
WHEN YOU ARE DOING YOUR BEST SHINOYA I HAVE TO DO MY BEST TOO!

IF YOU DON'T GO OVERBOARD, IT'S NO PROBLEM STOP THINKIN' WEIRD SHIT! NORMAL IS FINE
MES-SAGIN' IS OKAY
NAH
THAT'S WHY I'M SORRY ABOUT TODAY FROM NOW ON I'LL TRY TO BE REASONABLE WHEN I KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOU IF I CAN'T USE THE PHONE THERE'S ALSO LETTERS OR MAYBE TELEPATHY SOMETHING LIKE MIND TO MIND


Eat?
?
HUH? OKAY
OH... I SEE...
I MUST EAT WELL AND GROW TO BE A PROPER ADULT!
YOU ARE WORKING HARD SHINOYA SO I HAVE TO FIND MY TRUE SELF AND BECOME A BETTER PERSON!
Normal is not enough I want to be outstanding!
No, it's not!
CLENCH


IT'S FINE YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANY OF THAT JUST AIM TO BECOME A TEACHER MR UNIVERSITY STUDENT!
I'm hungry
YOU WANNA BE A HERO? HAVE SUPER-HUMAN STRENGTH?
WHAT KIND OF GOAL IS THAT?!
NO RATHER THAN THAT, SOMEONE WHO CAN CARRY YOU WITH JUST ONE HAND
dreamy
Yeah!
AND ONE DAY BECOME SOMEONE WHO CAN SUPPORT YOU

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU?
WANT ME TO TELL YOU WHY I LIKE YOU?
HM?
OKAY GOOD NIGHT
WANNA KNOW?
HAHA YEAH THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT
SHOCK
I don't know!
Honestly!
Yeah
I'm ready to listen
Of course!
YES, I DO!
WINTER HOLIDAYS?
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
IT MAY BE OUT OF SYMPATHY OR SOMETHING..
flustered
flustered
WELL I'VE GOT NO GOOD POINTS
HUH? OH WHATEVER COME BACK HERE FOR WINTER HOLIDAYS!
I DON'T KNOW
REALLY
I WONDER WHY

WHAT IF YOU GET A COLD?
NO NEED TO SEE ME OFF
I'M NOT A GIRL.
I TOLD YOU YOU'RE DRESSED TOO LIGHTLY! YOU SHOULD GO BACK
DAMN. IT'S COLD!
NO
JUST TILL THE BRIDGE
HUH? ISN'T THAT FAR?
GOTTA DROP BY THE STORE
IT'S OKAY I'LL WALK WITH YOU TO THAT CORNER
THE ONE WITH THE TO-FFIC LIGHT.
Hey, don't say that!
Shut up! Go to hell! Idiot!
I WON'T. WHY ARE YOU SO SURE I'D LOSE TO THEM ANYWAY?
What if you get mugged?
Sch-ool kids these days are scary!

dance
WHY
ALL BECAUSE HE'S RUNNING AWAY
THIS TIME... IT'S ME WHO'S OBSESSED AND CHASING AFTER HIM
UGH, DAMN IT
WHAT-EVER WE ARE,
I WANT EVERY-THING.
THAT'S WHY...
THAT'S TRUE,
WE ARE STRANGERS,
BUT IF A STRANGER CAN BECOME MY MOTHER...
EVEN YOU AND I,
EVEN IF WE ARE BOTH MEN.
"WE AREN'T FAMILY."

...MAKE A WISH UPON THE STARS...
...FOR THE TWO OF US.
IF YOU DO I'LL TAKE YOUR HAND
I'LL GRANT YOUR WISH
I'LL HOLD YOUR HAND AND NEVER LET GO
I PROMISE
SEE YOU AGAIN?

OH

BYE!
SEE YA!
YEAH

AND I WISH FOR THE SAME.

SO YOU WISH, TOO.

WHO'S OBSESSED WITH YOU

MAYBE IT'S ME.

YOU'RE ALWAYS LOOKING AT YOUR FEET.
BUT THIS TIME ON YOUR WAY HOME,
LOOK UP AT THE WINTER STARS. LET THEM CATCH YOUR GAZE.
AND WHEN YOU WALK BACK LOOKING AT THE SKY,

MAKE A WISH ABOUT THE TWO OF US...
...UPON THE TWINKLING STARS.
IF YOU DO, I'LL HOLD YOUR HAND
BUZZ BUZZ
FLIP
UGH... HE'S UP SO EARLY!
A GOOD MORNING MESSAGE? THAT'S TOO MUCH DEVOTION.
Well, now I won't oversleep, so it's fine.
IS IT OKAY IF I COME FOR SUMMER HOLIDAYS AND LONG WEEKENDS, TOO?
...
Sure...
DID HE MEAN I CAN ONLY COME ON WINTER HOLIDAYS?
AM I THINKING TOO MUCH AGAIN? BUT WHY DID HE JUST SAY WINTER HOLIDAYS?
IS IT A PAIN IN SUMMER BECAUSE IT'S TOO HOT? IS HE TOO BUSY? IT WILL BE SUMMER HOLIDAYS SOON!
DID HE MEAN I SHOULDN'T COME?
overthinking
END
* Didn't sleep a wink.

W a

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